



COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING  
INDUSTRIAL & OPERATIONS ENGINEERING  
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

# Mathematical Programming Models for Optimization of Medical Decision Making

Vietnam – USA Join Mathematical Meeting

Quy-Nhon – Vietnam, June 2019

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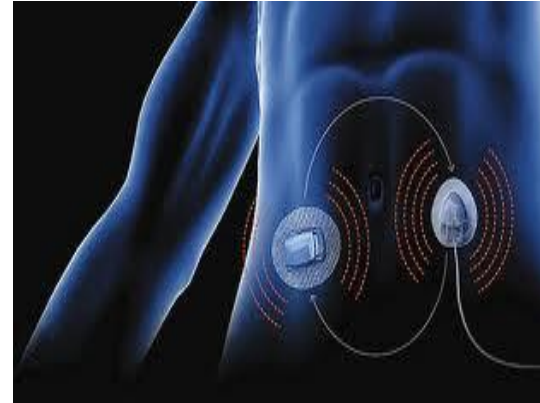
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# Optimization in Medicine

Cancer



Diabetes



Kidney Disease



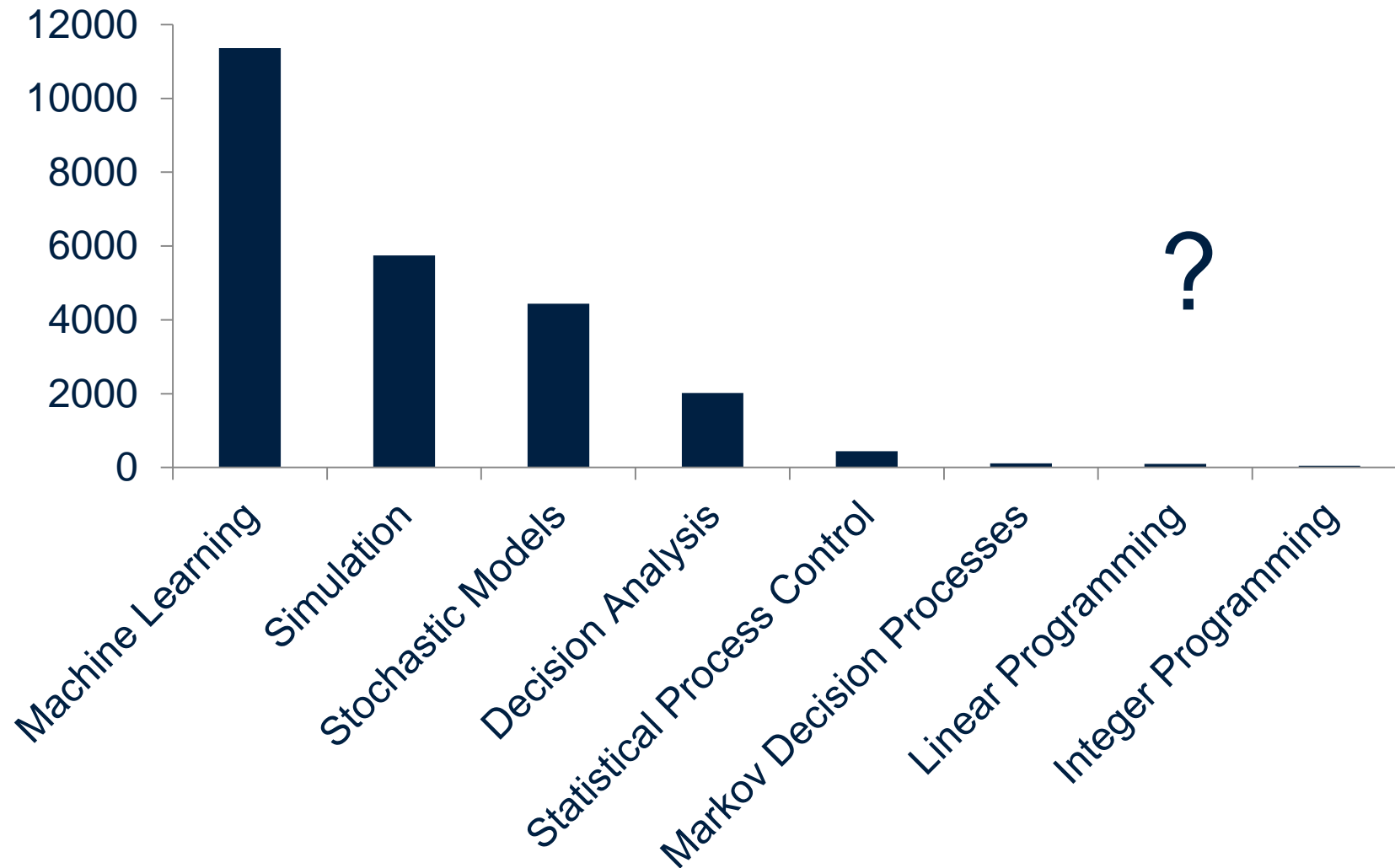
Heart Disease



# Number of Publications on PubMed in the last 10 years

- 1,426,842 articles on cancer
  - 169,076 articles on breast cancer
  - 79,662 articles on prostate cancer
- 474,417 articles on heart disease and stroke
- 304,406 articles on diabetes
- 43,887 articles on kidney disease
- 2,935 articles on allergies

# PubMed Results Over the Last 10 Years



# Claims

1. Optimization can improve medical decision making
2. Medicine can improve optimization
3. There are many unaddressed opportunities for future impact

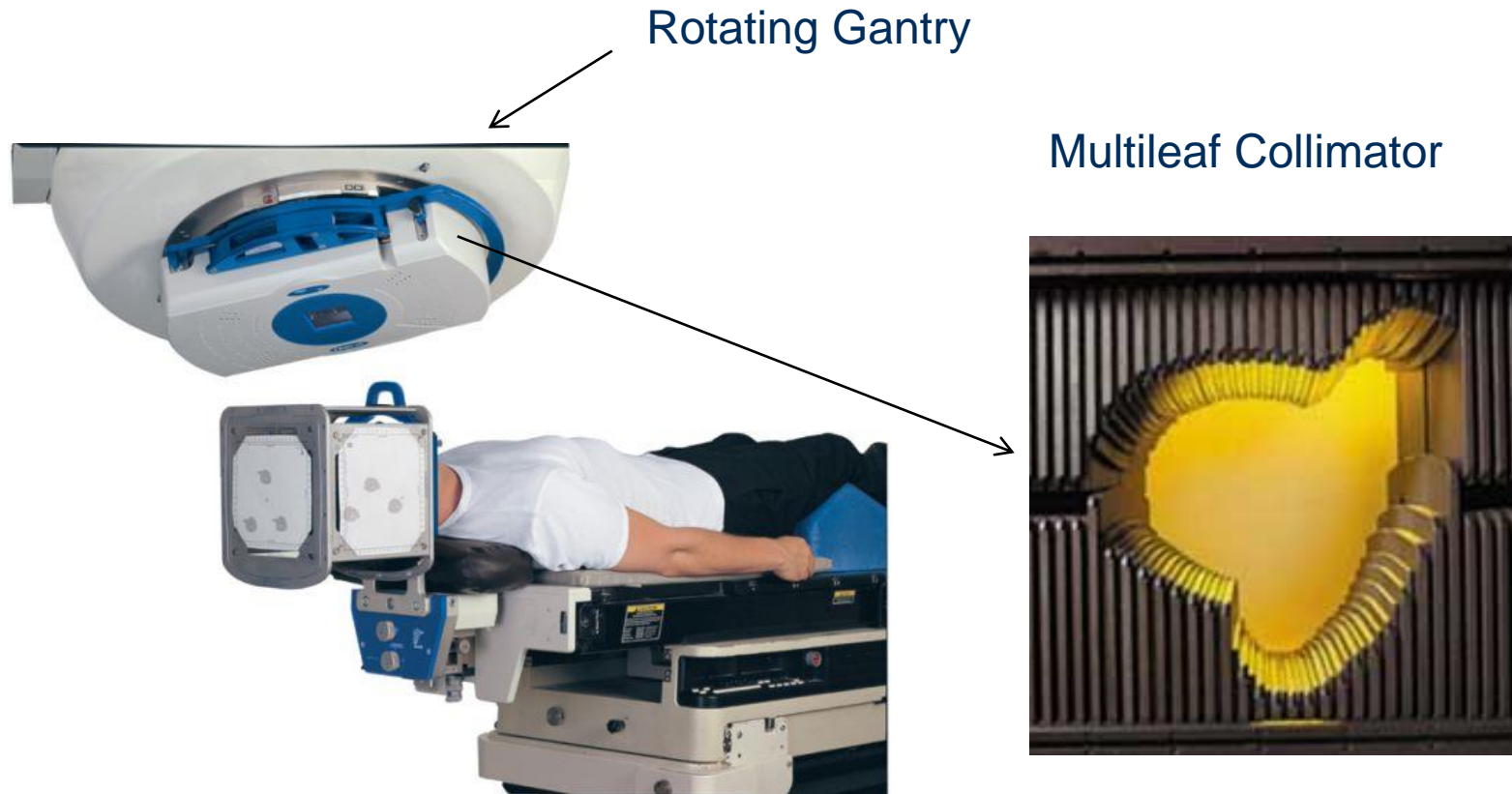


# Example 1: Radiation Treatment

Bahr et al. 1968. "The Method of Linear Programming Applied to Radiation Treatment Planning." *Radiology*. 91; 686-693.

- External beam radiation is passed through the body harming cancerous and healthy tissue
- Objective: minimize damage to healthy tissue while delivering required dose to cancer tissue

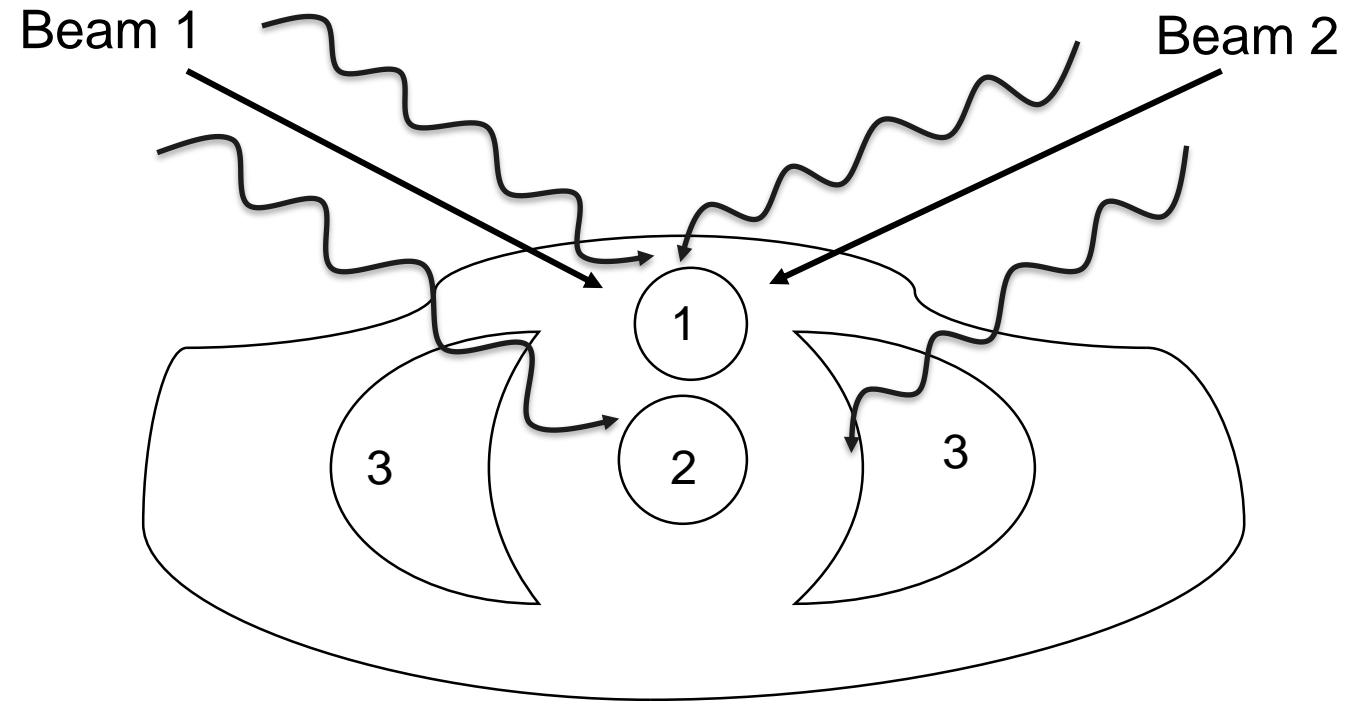
# Radiation is delivered via a rotating gantry with a multi-leaf collimator





# 2-Beam Problem

- 1. Tumor
- 2. Spine
- 3. Brain



# Linear Programming Model

Decision Variables: Exposure times for beams 1 and 2 ( $x_1, x_2$ )

Area	Dose Absorbed		Restriction on Dosage in Kilorads
	Beam 1 Dose	Beam 2 Dose	
Brain	0.4	0.5	Minimize
Spine	0.3	0.1	$\leq 2.7$
Tumor	0.5	0.5	$= 6$
Center of tumor	0.6	0.4	$\geq 6$

# Linear Programming Model

$$\text{Min } \sum_{\ell \in L} G_{\ell}(z)$$

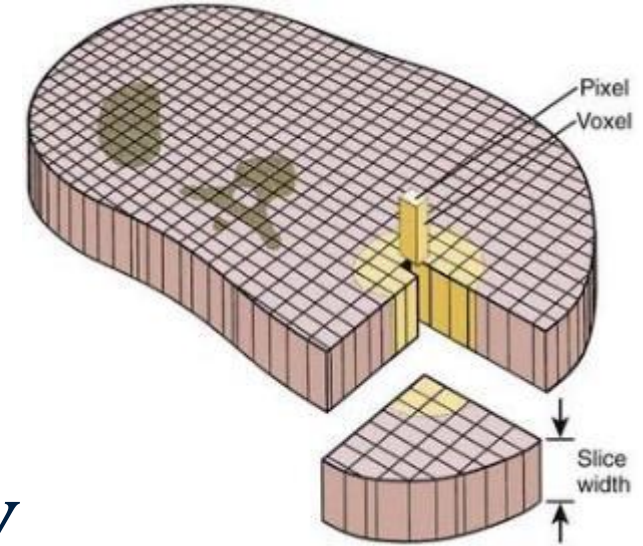
*Subject to:*

$$z_j = \sum_{k \in K} D_{kj} x_k, \quad \text{for all } j \text{ in } V$$

$$x_k \geq 0, \quad k \in K, \quad z_j \geq 0, \quad j \in V$$

$z_j$ : the dose delivered to voxel  $j \in V$

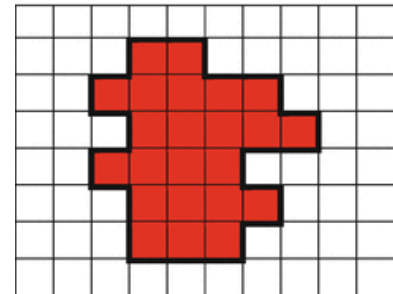
$x_k$ : the duration of beam  $k \in K$



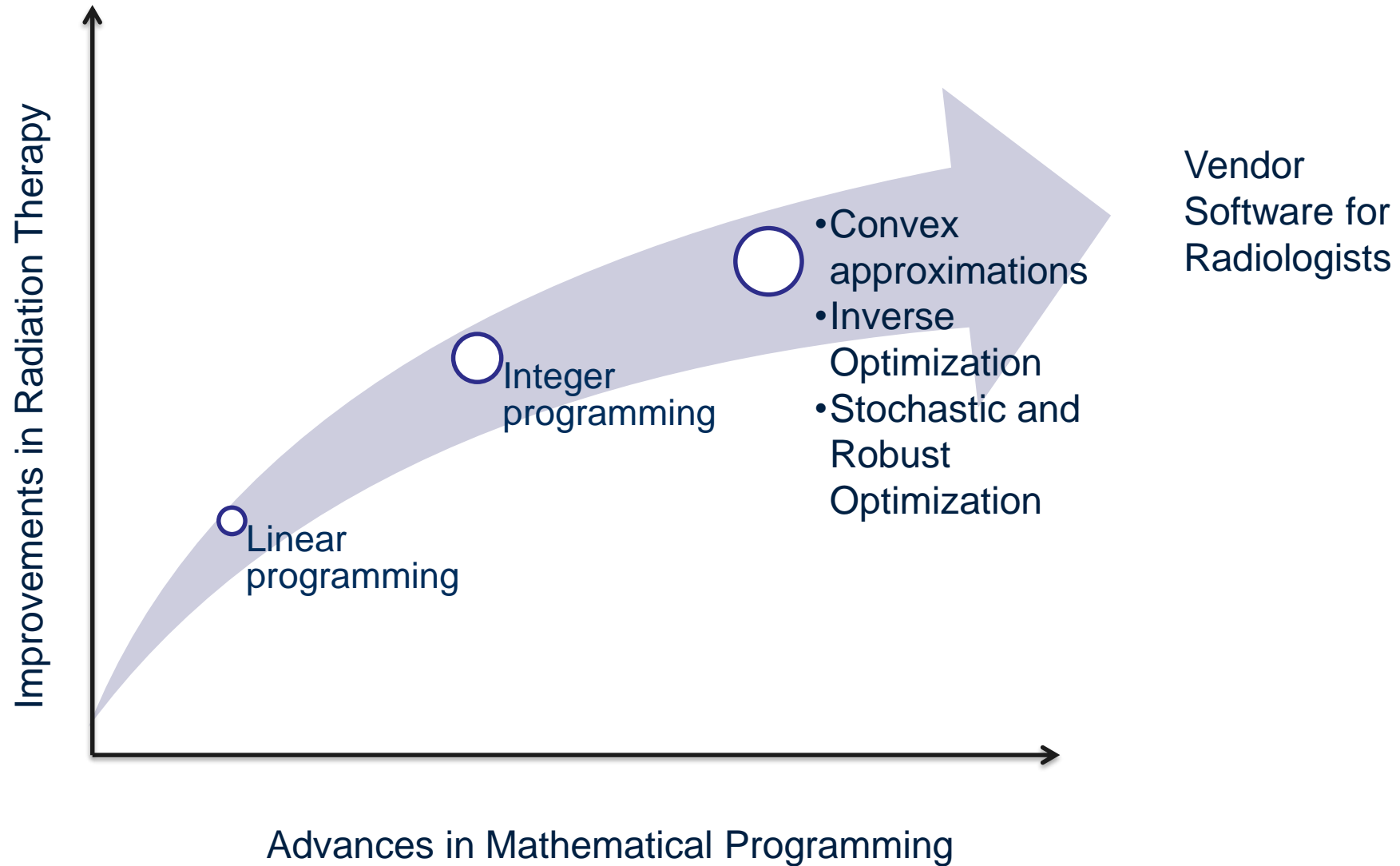
# Extensions

Integrated optimization of aperture design and beam intensities:

- Predefined number of beams
- Each beam is decomposed into a rectangular grid with  $m$  rows and  $n$  columns to create an intensity matrix
- For each row there are  $\frac{1}{2}n(n - 1) + 1$  combinations of left and right leaf settings  
$$\Rightarrow \left(\frac{1}{2}n(n - 1) + 1\right)^m \text{ apertures}$$
- Column generation method: Start with a restricted set of apertures, price out new apertures (columns) via decomposition algorithms

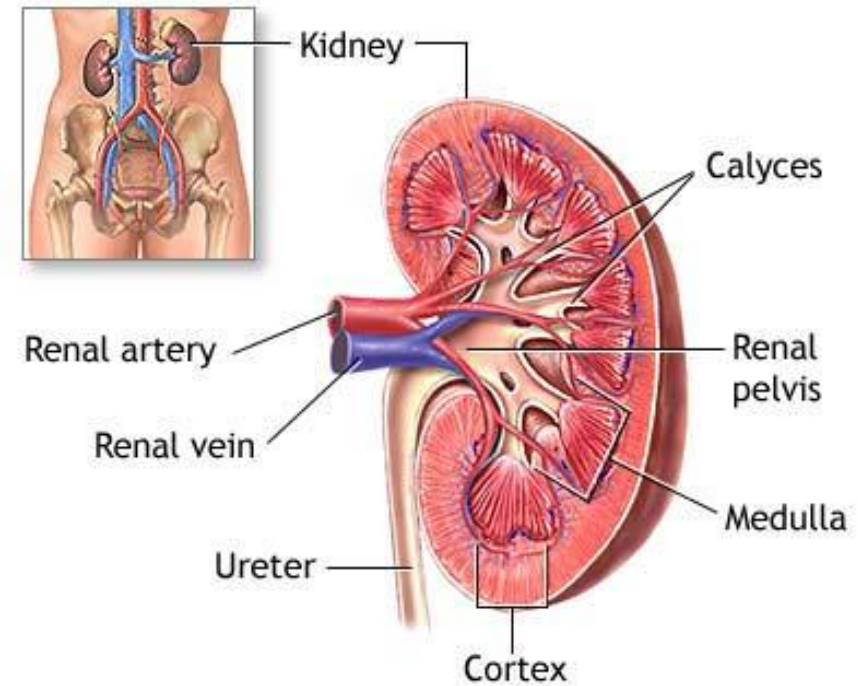


# Path from Research to Implementation



# Example 2: Kidney Disease

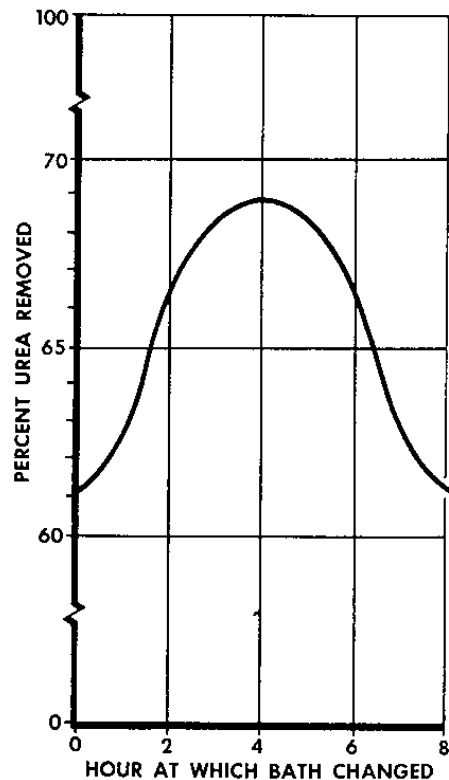
- Principal treatment options:
  - Dialysis (home or clinic)
  - Transplant (live or deceased donor)
- More than 350,000 people are on dialysis and 80,000 waiting for transplant



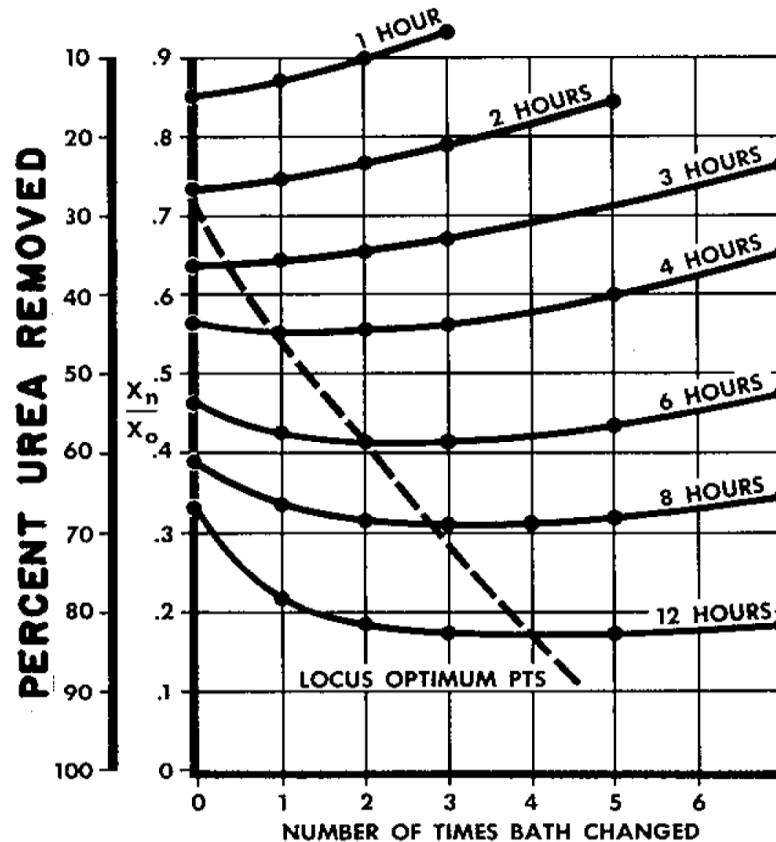
# Nonlinear Optimization

Miller, J.H. et al. 1960. "Optimization of Certain Parameters in Hemodialysis,"  
*Transactions - American Society for Artificial Internal Organs*. 6(1); 68-75

Optimal time to change bath



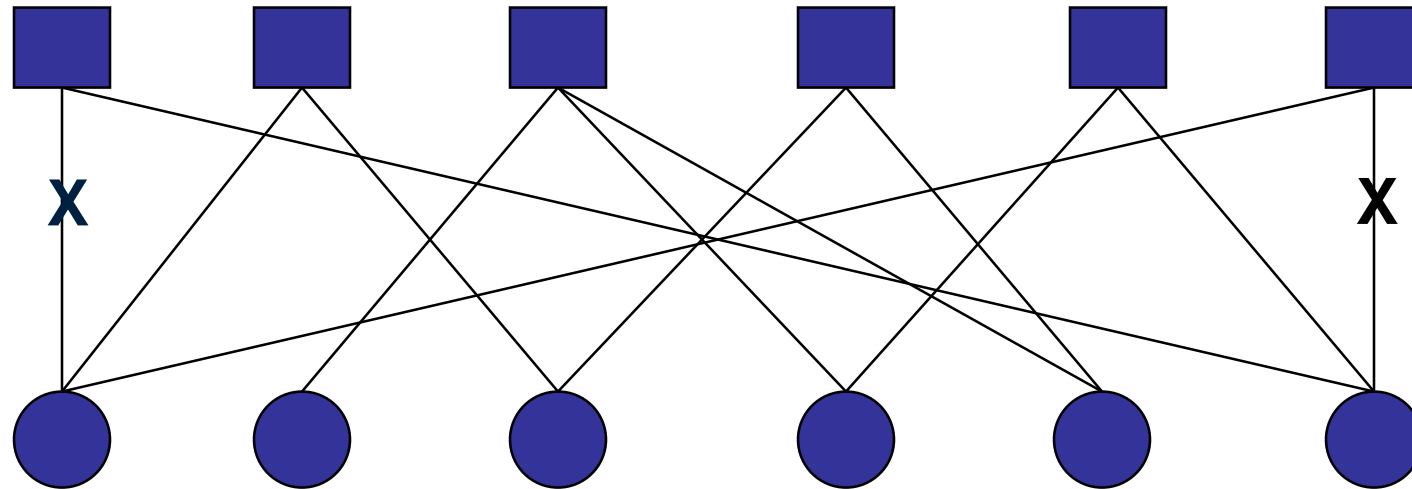
Optimal time to change bath



# Optimization of Kidney Transplants

## Kidney Exchange

Donors



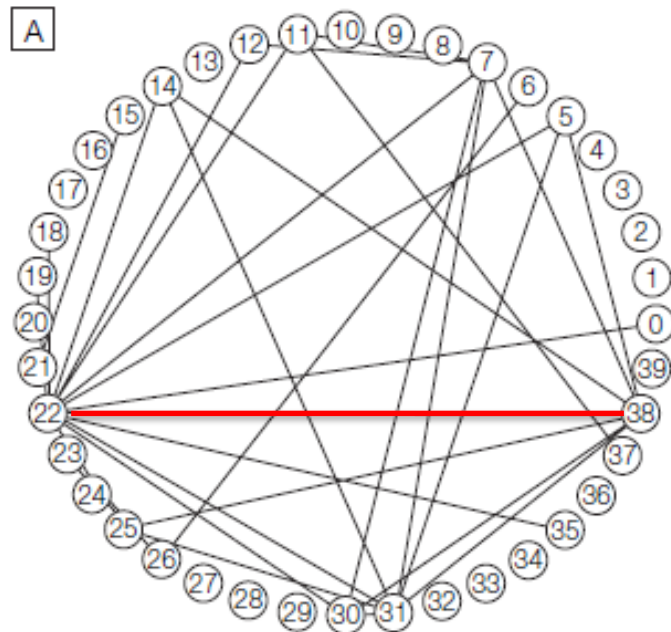
Recipients



# Paired Matching

**Figure 1.** Graph Theory Model of Donor/Recipient Nodes, With Links Indicating Compatible Matches

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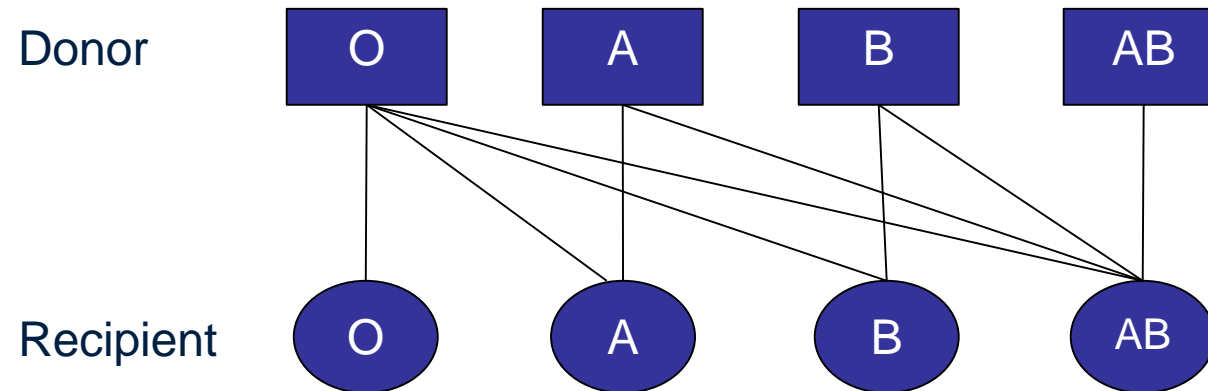
Segev, D, Gentry, S.E., Warren, D.S, Reeb, Montgomery, RA, 2005. "Kidney Paired Donation and Optimizing the Use of Live Donor Organs." *JAMA*. 293(15), 1883-1890.

# Criteria (Edge Weights)

- Number of matches
- Number of priority matches
- Immunologic concordance
- Travel requirements

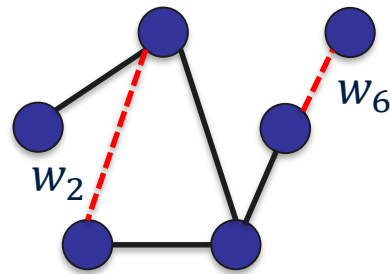
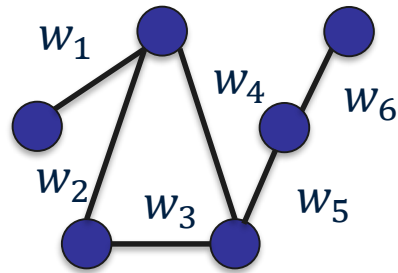
# Constraints (Edges)

- Compatibility is determined by two primary factors:
  - Blood type
  - Tissue antibodies
- Blood type compatibility

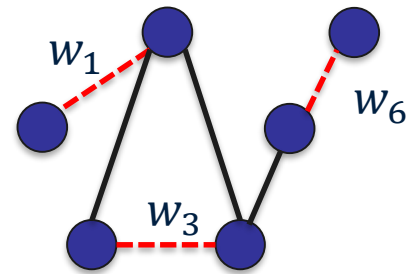


# Matching Problems

Given a graph  $G(V, E)$  a *matching* is a set of pairwise nonadjacent edges.



2 matches



3 matches

A *maximal edge-weight matching* is a set of non-adjacent edges with maximum total weight among all matches.

# Maximum Edge Weight Matching

A matching problem for a graph  $G(V, E)$  can be expressed as an *integer program*

$$\text{Max } \sum_{e \in E} w_e x_e$$

*Subject to:*

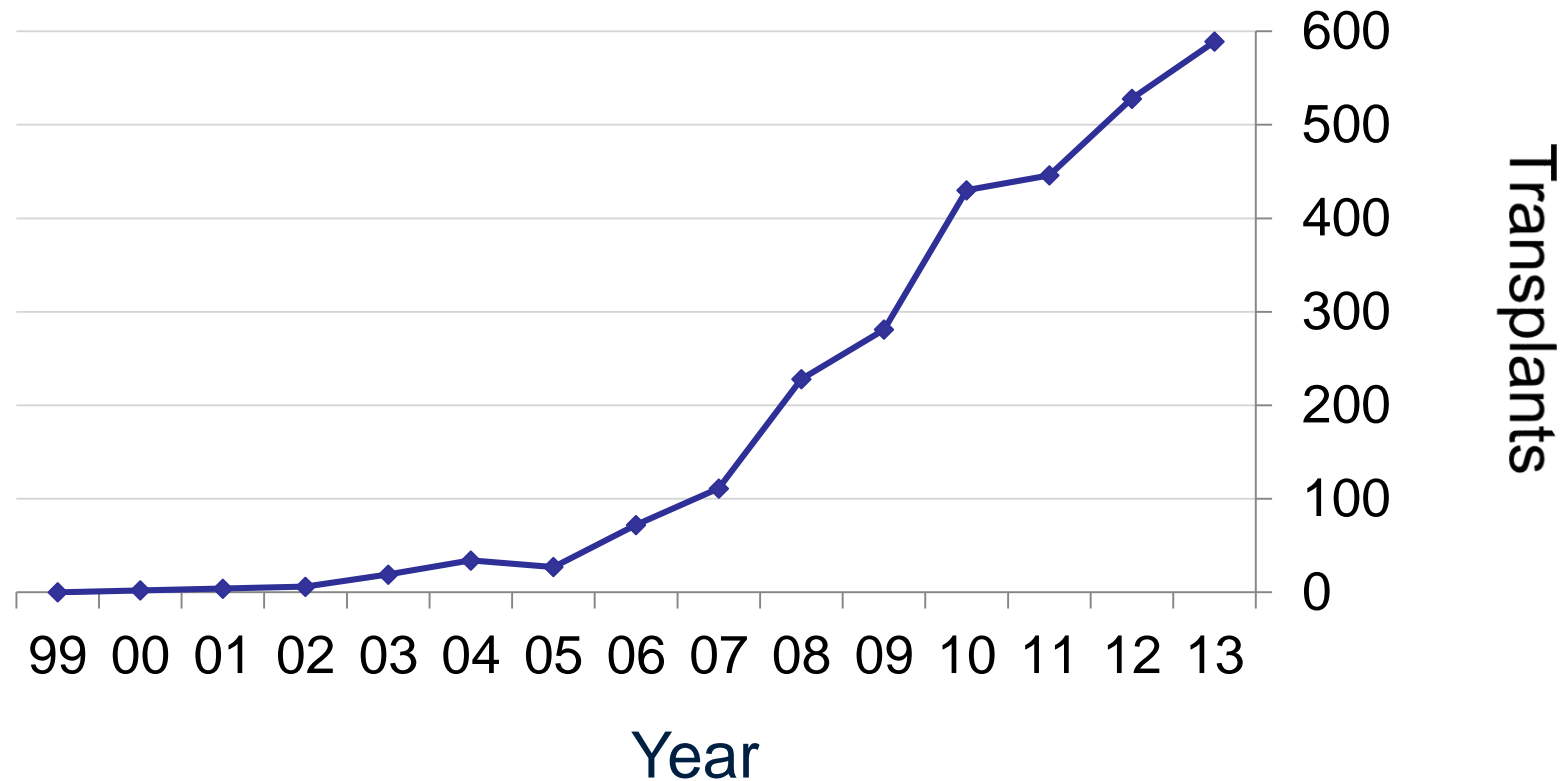
$$\sum_{e \sim v} x_e \leq 1, \text{ for all } v \in V$$

$$x_e \in \{0,1\}, \text{ for all } e \in E$$

# Factors that influence vertex and edge weights

- In a vertex weighted graph with positive weights any matching with maximum vertex weight has maximum cardinality
- A maximum edge weight matching could have **half as many** edges as a maximum cardinality matching
  - The ratio can be bounded by controlling :  $\max_i w_i - \min_i w_i$
- Connections to multi-criteria problems:
  - Weighted objectives
  - Bi-level optimization

# Impact



From 1 in 1999, to nearly 600 in 2013, KPD now comprises 10% of living kidney donations\*\*

\*Figure courtesy of Sommer Gentry, US Naval Academy; [www.optimizedmatch.com](http://www.optimizedmatch.com)

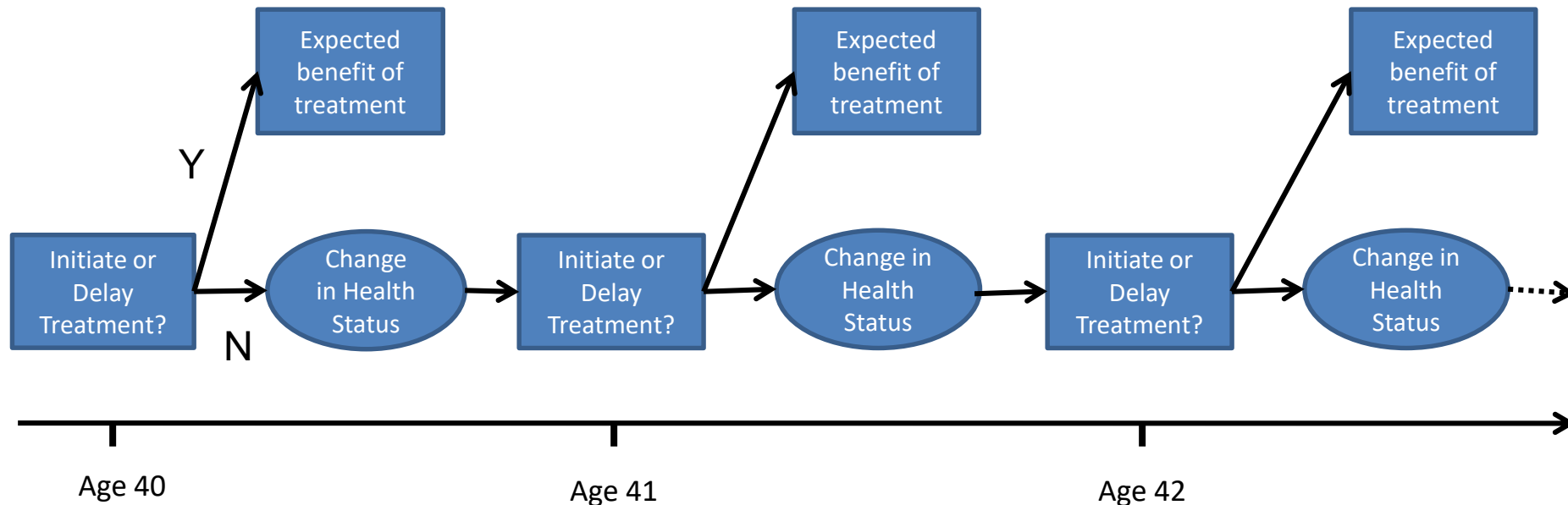
# Example 3: Diabetes

- 29 million people have diabetes in the U.S.
  - 9% of the U.S. population
  - 90% have type 2 diabetes
- Health complications include micro and macro-vascular events
- Medication can control major risk factors like blood sugar, cholesterol and blood pressure

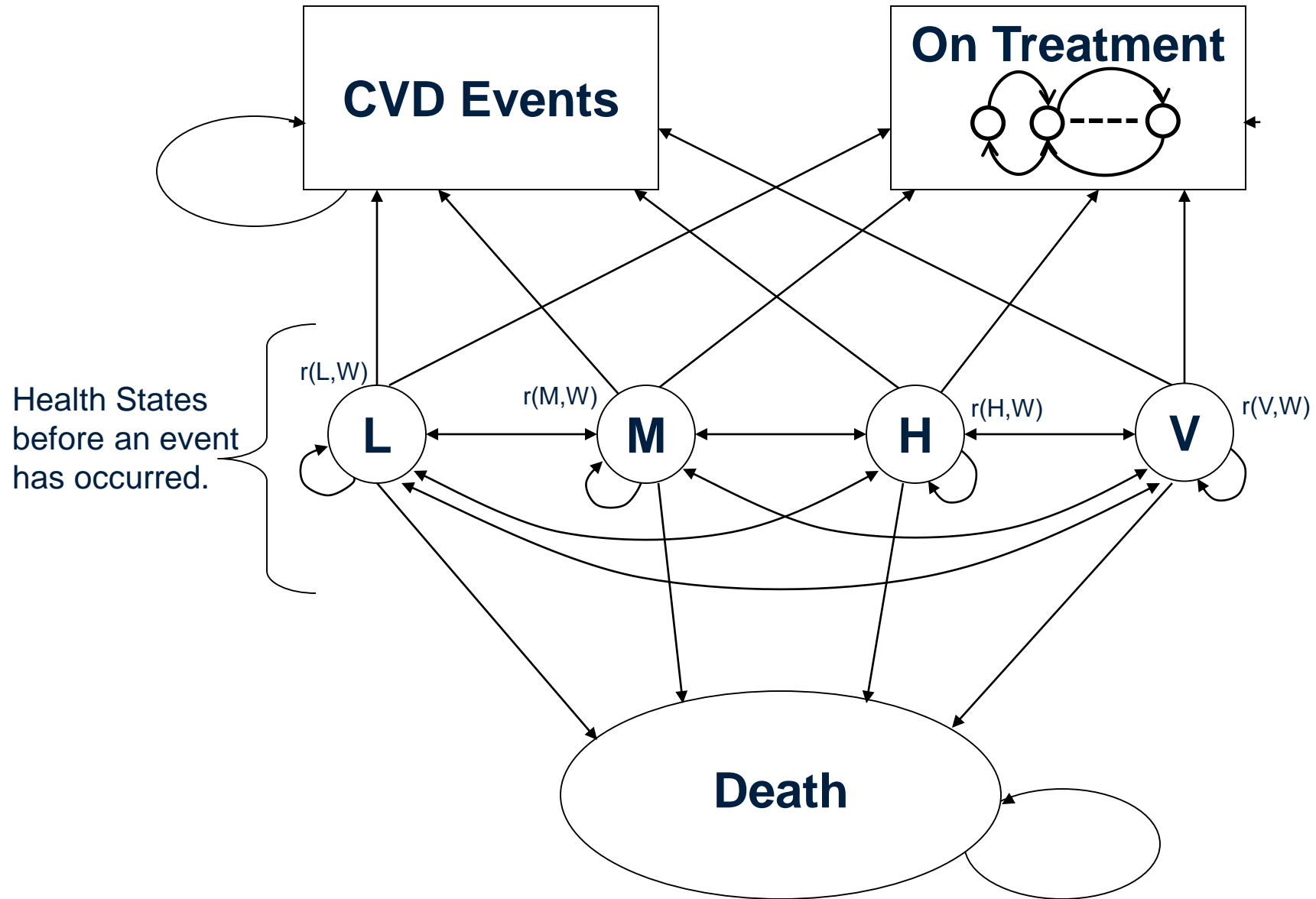


# Sequential Decision Making

- Choose the best action each time period to maximize long term expected rewards



# State Transition Diagram



# Markov Decision Process

- Health status:  $s_t \in S \equiv \{1, 2, 3, \dots, L, L + 1\}$
- Treatment decision in state  $s_t$ :  $a(s_t) \in A(s_t)$
- Optimality Equations for all  $s_t, t = 1, \dots, T - 1$ :

$$\underbrace{v_t(s_t)}_{\text{Optimal Reward to Go in Health State } s_t} = \max_{a_t} \underbrace{r(s_t, a_t)}_{\text{Period } t \text{ Reward}} + \lambda \sum_{\forall s_{t+1}} \underbrace{p(s'_t | s_t, a_t) v_{t+1}(s'_t)}_{\text{Discounted Expected Future Reward}}$$

$\underbrace{v_T(s_T) = r(s_T)}_{\text{Boundary condition}}$

Transition probabilities

# Reward Function

Rewards for each state action pair define the objective function for a Markov decision process

Reward for living disease free for one period

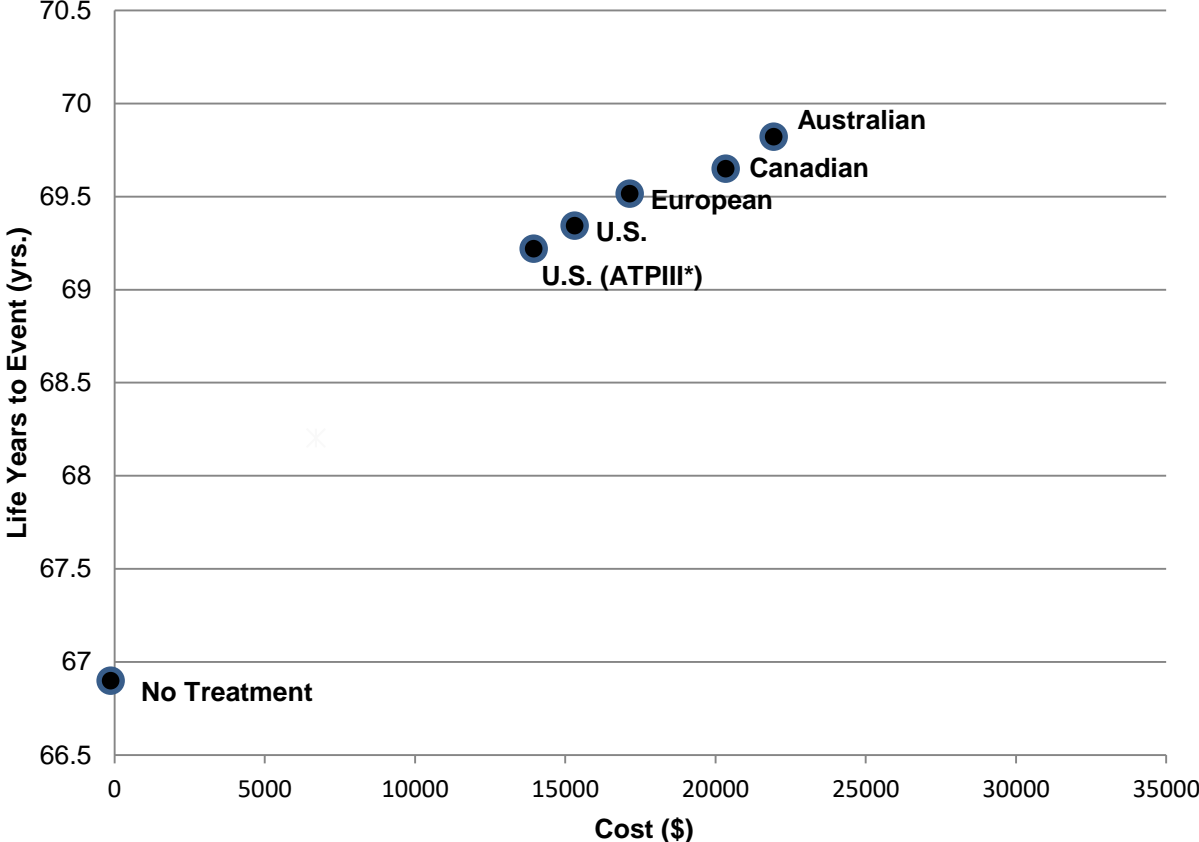
Cost of cardiovascular events

$$r(s_t, a_t) = \alpha L(s_t, a_t) - (1 - \alpha)(C^S(s_t) + C^{CHD}(s_t) + C^M(s_t))$$

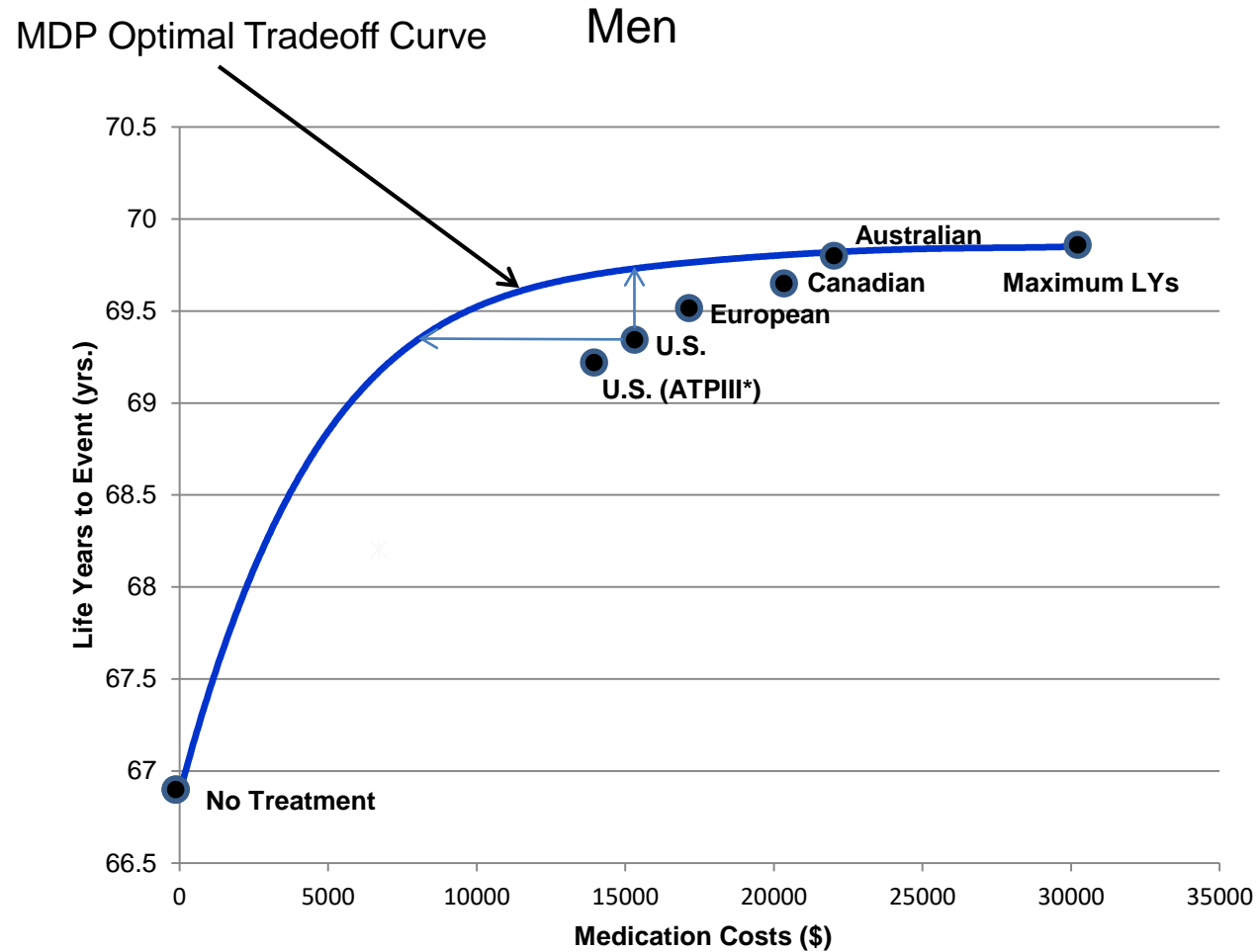
Medication cost

# Policy Evaluation

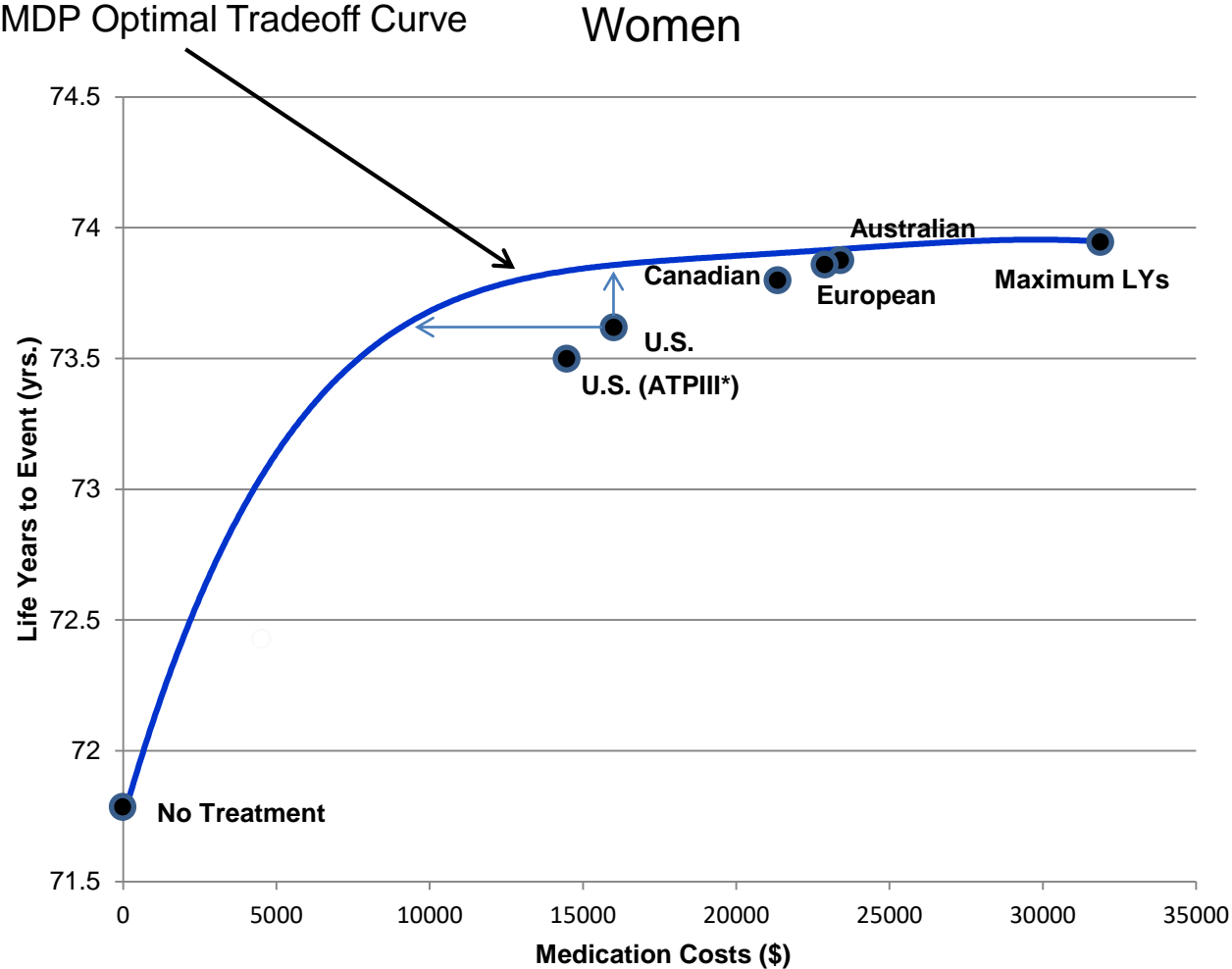
Men



# Optimal Policy vs Guidelines



# Optimal Policy vs Guidelines



# Other Examples

- Liver Transplants: Alagoz, Maillart, Schaefer, Roberts, *Management Science*, 2004
  - Breast Cancer: Maillart, Ivy, Ransom, Diehl, *Operations Research*, 2008
  - HIV: Shechter, Schaefer, Roberts, *Operations Research*, 2008
  - Prostate Cancer: Zhang, Denton, Balasubramanian, Shah, *M&SOM* 2012
  - Adherence to Screening: Ayer, Alagoz, Stout, Burnside, *Management Science*, 2015
  - Colorectal Cancer: Erenay, Alagoz, Said, *M&SOM*, 2014
- 

## **Markov Decision Processes for Screening and Treatment of Chronic Diseases**

Markov Decision Processes in Practice pp 189-222

Part of the International Series in Operations Research & Management Science book series (ISOR, volume 248)

- Lauren N. Steimle (1) Email author (steimle@umich.edu)
- Brian T. Denton (1)

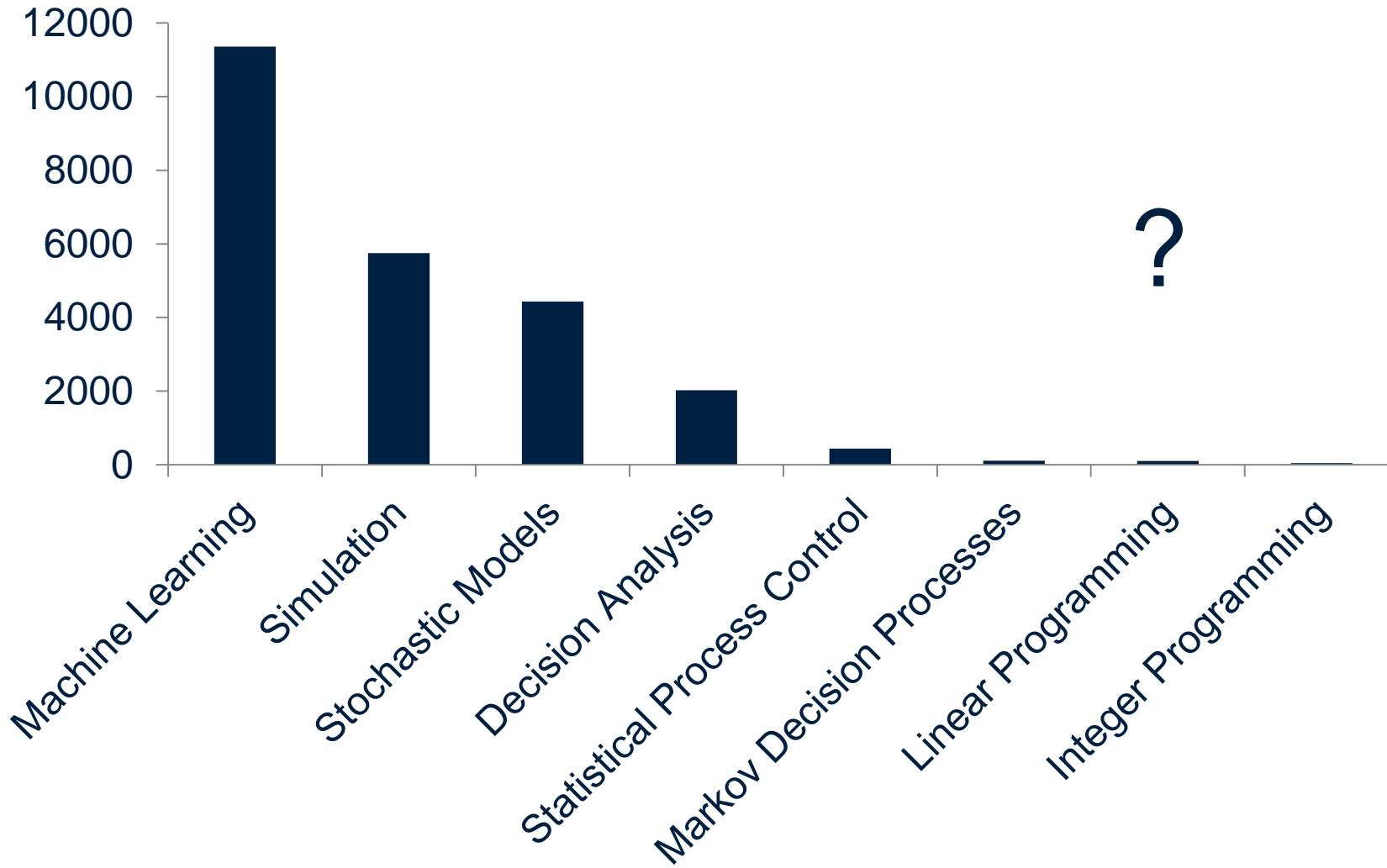
1. Department of Industrial and Operations Engineering, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, USA



# Optimization in Medicine: The Future



# PubMed Search Results



# Sequential Decision Making

## Research Questions:

- When and how frequently to screen for diseases?
- When to use diagnostic tests?
- When to treat?

## Methods :

- Markov decision processes
- Partially observable Markov decision processes
- Multi-stage stochastic programming
- Reinforcement learning



# Example

## UVA's Continuous Closed-Loop Artificial Pancreas Powered by Android Smartphone



- Difficult real time optimal control problem
- Must maintain glucose levels within a defined range
- Current glucose state difficult to predict

Cobelli, C, Renard, E., Kovatchev, B. 2011. Artificial Pancreas: Past, Present, Future, *Diabetes*, 60, 2682 - 2682

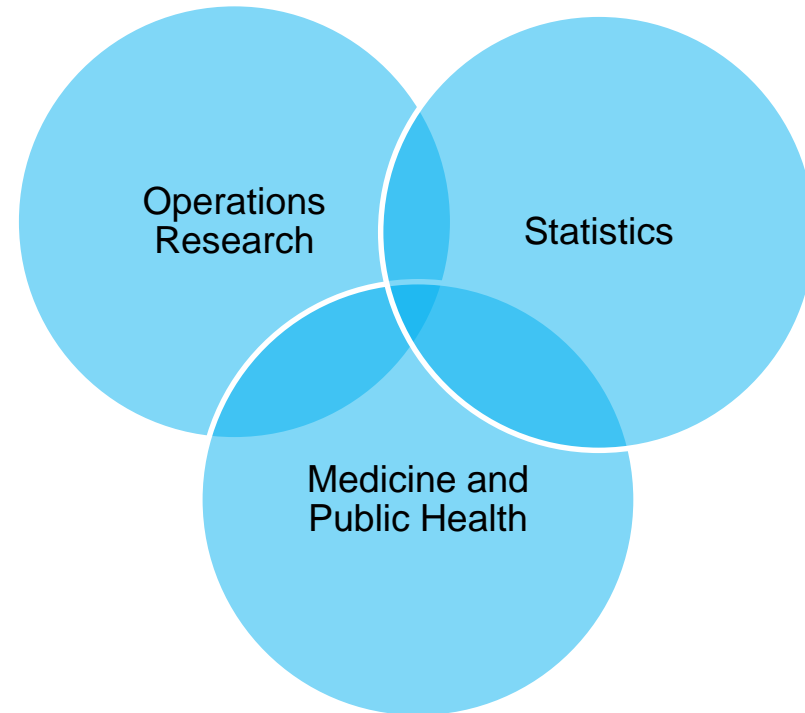
# Resource Constrained Decision Making

## Research Questions:

- How best to allocate resources across medical areas in hospitals?
- How to prioritize prevention and treatment in resource constrained settings?

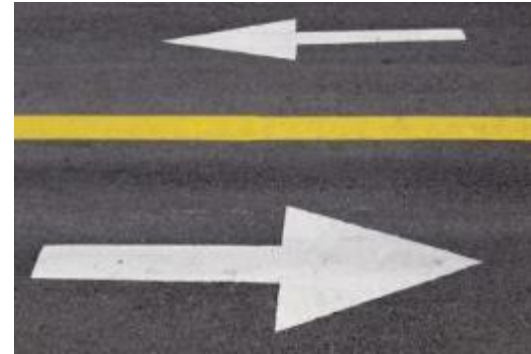
## Methods:

- Continuous optimization
- Integer and combinatorial optimization
- Stochastic Programming



# Takeaways

- Optimization models can improve medical decision making and vice versa but...
- It is underutilized and there are many challenges and unexplored opportunities to address this problem



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